

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR A  
WATER QUALITY STUDY (TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD  
DEVELOPMENT)**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on a water quality study that is beginning in the Back Bay and North Landing River watersheds. The purpose of the study will be to identify sources of bacteria in the watershed and to determine the reductions in bacteria loadings needed to allow various streams in the watershed to meet water quality goals. The study will result in Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to address bacteria impairments on several waterways.

The affected streams were identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and Virginia's 2002 303(d) Report on Impaired Waters as impaired due to violations of Virginia's water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria. These streams are therefore not supporting the Primary Contact Recreation (swimmable) Designated Use. The impairments include: 3.29 miles of Milldam Creek, 0.09 sq. miles of Nawney Creek, 3.1 miles of Middle West Neck Creek, 0.03 sq. miles of Upper West Neck Creek, and 0.11 sq. miles of London Bridge Creek and Canal #2. These impaired waters are located in Virginia Beach.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for each pollutant causing a water quality problem, or impairment, in streams contained in Virginia's 303(d) Report on Impaired Waters.

The second public meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, January 20 at 7:00pm** in the Advanced Technology Center at Tidewater Community College, Virginia Beach Campus. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the TMDL development process and to share information on bacteria sources in the watershed. Anyone interested in attending this meeting should contact Jennifer Howell (contact information provided below). Information from this meeting will be made available on the DEQ TMDL web site at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl/>

Questions or information requests should be addressed to Jennifer Howell. The public comment period will end on **February 20, 2004**. Written comments regarding the water quality study and TMDL development should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to: Jennifer Howell, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA, 23462, telephone (757) 518-2111, fax (757) 518-2003, or e-mail [jshowell@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:jshowell@deq.virginia.gov).